

Remarks

In response to the Office Action dated April 1, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Interview Summary

The undersigned and the Examiner discussed the present application on June 12, 2008. Amendments to claim 1 as presented above were briefly discussed. No specific agreement was reached other than that such amendments would be submitted in response to the Office Action and further consideration would be given.

102 Rejections

Claims 1, 5, 7, 25, 27-29, and 32 are pending and rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated over Wise, et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,884,262). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections to the extent that they apply to the currently pending claims.

Claims 1, 5 and 7

Amended independent claim 1, recites in pertinent part:

[a] system for providing announcements on a communications network comprising . . .

wherein a call from an individual is connected to the announcement digital signal processor at the at least one central terminal, with the at least one central terminal determining a list of announcement phrases required for at least one announcement, the central terminal sending a request to the announcement service node that includes the list of announcement phrases required for the at least one announcement, the announcement service node receiving the list of announcement phrases required and assembling the digitized announcement phrases into the at least one announcement, the announcement digital signal processor receiving the at least one announcement from the announcement service node . . .

These recitations are not described in Wise. For example, Wise fails to describe "...with the at least one central terminal determining a list of announcement phrases required for at least one announcement, the central terminal sending a request to the announcement service node that includes the list of announcement phrases required

for the at least one announcement.” Wise discloses providing a system to retrieve data stored in digital files requested by a user and translating that information so it may be played to the user over a telephone interface. This retrieval and translation does not include determining a list of announcement phrases required for at least one announcement by a central terminal and sending a request to an announcement service node that includes a list of phrases required for the at least one announcement as recited by claim 1.

In addition, Wise fails to describe “the announcement service node receiving the list of announcement phrases required and assembling the digitized announcement phrases into the at least one announcement, the announcement digital signal processor receiving the at least one announcement from the announcement service node.” Wise discloses a system that retrieves files for a requesting user based on particular search criteria. Wise does not describe an announcement digital signal processor that receives an announcement from announcement service node by the announcement service node assembling a list of phrases into at least one announcement as recited by claim 1. Wise discloses a system that retrieves information available on the World Wide Web that is contained within digital files and transforms this information into an audible format so that a caller may listen to it via a telephone interface. Wise fails to provide for the assembling of announcement messages by an announcement service node as recited by claim 1. Thus, Wise fails to disclose all of the elements of claim 1 for at least these reasons. Dependent claims 5 and 7 depend from allowable amended claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claims 25, 27-29, and 32

Amended independent claim 25, recites in pertinent part:

[a] method of providing announcements to devices on a network for a telephone service provider comprising:

. . . wherein the at least one central terminal determines a list of announcement phrases required for the at least one announcement, then sends a request to the centralized announcement service node that includes the list of announcement phrases required for the at least one announcement,

the centralized announcement service node assembling, in response to receiving the list of announcement phrases required for the at least one

announcement, at least one recorded announcement file from a centralized storage mass that includes a plurality of recorded digitized announcement phrases

...

These recitations are not described in Wise. For example, Wise fails to describe "...the at least one central terminal determines a list of announcement phrases required for the at least one announcement, then sends a request to the centralized announcement service node that includes a list of announcement phrases required for the at least one announcement." Wise discloses providing a system to retrieve data stored in digital files requested by a user and translating that information so it may be played to the user over a telephone interface. This retrieval and translation does not include determining a list of phrases required for at least one announcement and sending a request to an announcement service node that includes the list of phrases required for the at least one announcement.

In addition, Wise fails to describe "assembling by the centralized announcement service node, in response to receiving the list of announcement phrases required for the at least one announcement, at least one recorded announcement file from a centralized storage mass that includes a plurality of recorded digitized announcement phrases corresponding to the list." Wise discloses a system that retrieves files for a requesting user based on particular search criteria. Wise does not describe a system that assembles at least one recorded announcement file from a centralized storage mass, and particularly not assembling based on a received list of phrases from a central terminal. Wise discloses a system that retrieves information available on the World Wide Web that is contained within digital files and transforms this information into an audible format so that a caller may listen to it via a telephone interface. Wise fails to provide for the assembling of announcements by a centralized announcement service node as recited by claim 25. Thus, Wise fails to disclose all of the elements of claim 25 for at least these reasons. Dependent claims 27-29 and 32 depend from allowable amended claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

103 Rejections

Dependent claims 2, 3 and 6 are pending and rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Wise in view of Bouman-Amuah (U.S. Pat. 6,438,594). Dependent claim 31 is pending and rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Wise in view of Kredo et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,259,771).

Claims 2, 3 and 6 depend from claim 1. As discussed above, Wise fails to describe all of the claim elements of independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 2, 3, and 6 are allowable over Wise for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Furthermore, the combination of Wise and Bouman-Amuah also fails to disclose all of the recitations of independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 2, 3 and 6 are allowable over Wise in view of Bouman-Amuah for at least these reasons.

Claim 31 depends from claim 25. As discussed above, Wise fails to describe all of the claim elements of independent claim 25. Therefore, dependent claim 31 is allowable over Wise for at least the same reasons as claim 25. Furthermore, the combination of Wise and Kredo also fails to disclose all of the recitations of independent claim 25. Therefore, dependent claim 31 is allowable over Wise in view of Kredo for at least these reasons.

Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1-3, 5-7, 25, 27-29, 31 and 32 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants request that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025

Respectfully submitted,

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